GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4941
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2001
LETTER WRITTEN TO EMBASSIES
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;RAMSHETH THAKUR;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any letter to the embassies asking them to keep the Centre informed before they initiate any dialogue with the State Governments;

(b) if so, the reasons and details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have also issued guidelines to State Governments to inform the Centre, whileinitiating any dialogue with foreign institution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of State Governments thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL)

(a) to (d) : The Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance is the nodal administrative Department for all dealings with external funding agencies. It is in this capacity that this Department has addressed the concerned external funding agencies/foreign embassies on the one hand and State Governments/Central Ministries and Departments on the other, regarding the appropriate procedures to be adopted for the following :

(1) all policy and project proposals involving external aid; and

(2) sponsoring Government officials for attending conferences, seminars, workshops, etc. abroad at the invitation of foreign countries/donor agencies.

These guidelines have been issued with a view to ensuring coherence of policy and procedure consistent with constitutional provisions. Some State Governments have acknowledged these guidelines.